

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments, Applicant requests reconsideration of the pending application.

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 25, 26, 36, and 37 have been amended and no new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 2, 21, 22, 27, 28, 33, 34, 38, and 39 were previously canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein.

Claims 3-20, 23, 24, 29, 30, 35, 40 and 41 are allowed.

Claims 25, 26, 31, 32, 36, 37, 42 and 43 are rejected.

Claims 3-20, 23-26, 29-32, 35-37, and 40-43 are currently pending.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the acknowledgment of allowable subject matter in claims 3-20, 23, 24, 29, 30, 35, 40 and 41.

III. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 25, 26, 31, 32, 36, 37, 42 and 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over JP '687 in view of a publication by Senzaki et al.¹ Applicants amended claims 25, 26, 36 and 37 to recite that the metal atom in the organometallic compound is at least one of Hf, Ta, Ce, Al, V, La, Nb, or Ni.

¹ Senzaki et al., *Advanced Materials for Optics and Electronics*, Vol. 10, No. 3-5, pp. 93-103 (2000), Chemical Abstracts No. 134:93473.

In contrast, the combination of JP '687 and Senzaki only disclose compounds with Zr and Ti metal atoms, as noted by the Examiner. Claims 25, 26, 36 and 37 now exclude using organometallic compounds containing Zr and Ti, and thus cannot form metal amide compounds with Zr and Ti.

Claims 31 and 42 depend from claim 25 and claims 32 and 43 depend from claim 26, and are allowable based on their dependency.

Applicant respectfully requests the rejection be withdrawn since JP '687 and Senzaki, alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest all of the elements of the claims.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below once he has reviewed the proposed amendment if the Examiner believes any issue can be resolved through either a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment.

Dated: July 14, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By

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